

REMARKS

Claims 1-160 and 273-400 have been canceled.

Provisional Double Patenting Rejection

In the Final Office Action mailed January 5, 2004, claims 33-48, 65-96 and 113-272 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over the claimed invention in one or more of the following copending United States Patent Applications: 09/219,442, 09/935,726, 08/465,968, 09/107,997, 10/060,523, 10/127,551 and 10/084,488. Claims 33-48, 65-96 and 113-160 have been canceled.

With respect to claims 161-272, Applicants agreed to file a Terminal Disclaimer in the present application over any claims in the cited copending applications that were allowed or issued prior to allowance of the instant application. In this respect, Applicants note that Application Serial No. 10/060,523 is now abandoned. Application Serial No. 08/465,968 issued as United States Patent No. 6,608,182 on August 19, 2003 and Application Serial No. 10/084,488 issued as United States Patent No. 6,734,285 on May 11, 2004. Applicants therefore submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer over United States Patent Nos. 6,608,182 and 6,734,285.

Written Description

Claims 33-48, 65-96, and 113-160 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as lacking written description for the terms "mature" and "proprotein." These claims have now been canceled, rendering this rejection moot.

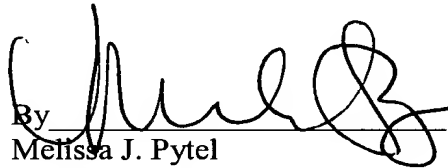
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks Applicants believe they have fully addressed the Examiner's concerns and that this application is now in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is urged. A request is made to the Examiner to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below if any further action by Applicants would expedite allowance of this application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 08-3425. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Dated: Sept. 7, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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